



William F. Martin  
Mayor

City known as the Town of  
**GREENFIELD, MASSACHUSETTS**  
**CONSERVATION COMMISSION**

Town Hall • 14 Court Square • Greenfield, MA 01301  
Phone 413-772-1548 ext 3 • Fax 413-772-1309  
[sarah.fortune@greenfield-ma.gov](mailto:sarah.fortune@greenfield-ma.gov) • [www.greenfield-ma.gov](http://www.greenfield-ma.gov)

John Griffin, Chair  
Rachel Lindsay, Vice Chair  
Erika LaForme  
Douglas Cloutier

Agent: Sarah Fortune

**GREENFIELD CONSERVATION COMMISSION**  
**Meeting Minutes of Tuesday, January 22<sup>nd</sup>, 2019**  
**Greenfield Department of Planning and Development**  
**114 Main Street, Greenfield MA 01301**

The meeting was called to order by Vice Chair Rachel Lindsay at 6:01 PM with the following members:

**MEMBERS PRESENT:** Rachel Lindsay, Vice Chair  
Erika LaForme  
Doug Cloutier

**MEMBERS ABSENT:** John Griffin, Chair

**ALSO PRESENT:** Maria Firstenberg, TRC, 650 Suffolk Street, Suite 200, Lowell, MA 01854

**6:02 PM Administrative Matters: Review Correspondence – MACC Annual Environmental Conference**

The Massachusetts Association of Conservation Commissions (MACC) is holding their Annual Environmental Conference on Saturday, March 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2019 at the College of the Holy Cross in Worcester, MA. All Conservation Commissioners who are interested are welcome to attend.

**6:04 PM Administrative Matters: Chair, Agent & Member Reports**

Erika LaForme attended the Sustainable Land-Care Symposium on Tuesday, January 15<sup>th</sup>, 2019 to learn ways to make landscapes less environmentally harmful and to promote sustainable land management practices to promote native populations of wildlife. The workshop was geared toward municipal officials, Conservation Commissions, Agricultural Commissions, Planners, and DPW employees.

**6:08 PM Administrative Matters: Other Business (New/Old)**

**1. 270 Turners Falls Road:**

There was no update on this agenda item.

**2. Review & discuss development of fee schedule:**

Motion made by Erika LaForme to table the discussion of the fee schedule until 2/12/2019

Motion seconded by Doug Cloutier

No further discussion – 3-0-0 – Motion Carries

**6:13 PM Other Projects, Monitoring, Enforcements & Violations**

**1. Violation updates – 26 Clark Street (Map 107-27), tree cutting in wetlands/buffer zone:**

The Agent provided an update on the possible violations at 26 Clark Street involving tree removal in wetlands and/or their buffer zone. The Agent issued an Enforcement Notice on 12/18/2018 but was informed that the property had recently been sold. The Agent located the new property owners name and reissued the Enforcement Notice on 1/22/2019.

**2. Notice of Intent submissions: 57 Forgey Way & Franklin County Fair Grounds:**

The Agent informed the GCC of two (2) Notice of Intent permit application submissions received on 1/8/2019 for slope



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failure mitigation projects. The public hearings are scheduled to occur on 2/26/2019.

**3. Discuss Griswold/GTD Forest Stewardsip Plan – Lincoln Fish attending 2/26/19 meeting:**

The Agent contacted Lincoln Fish, forester with Bay State Forestry Service to discuss the process in which to update the Forest Stewardship Plan for the Griswold/GTD Conservation Area, which expired on 12/31/2018. Lincoln Fish will be attending the February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 meeting to discuss the GCC's goals for forest management and stewardship on the property.

**6:15 PM Cont. Notice of Intent: DEP # 168-0330 – 562 Leyden Road (Map R30-3) – exploratory soil borings**

The Commission continued to review a Notice of Intent (NOI) permit application submitted by TRC Environmental Corporation c/o Andrea Agostino of the New England Power Company for proposed exploratory soil borings along the E205E Transmission Line right-of-way (ROW) on the property located at 652 Leyden Road (Assessor's Map R30-3). Disturbance associated with the project as proposed is located within: the Riverfront Area to Glen Brook, a coldwater fisheries resource; within Bordering Land Subject to Flooding; and within Bordering Vegetated Wetlands and their buffer zones.

Rachel Lindsay reopened the public hearing and Maria Firstenberg of TRC was present to continue to describe the proposed project to the GCC. It was discovered at the last meeting on 1/8/2019 that the Notice of Intent (NOI) permit application needed to be submitted to and reviewed by the Natural Heritage and Endangered Species Program (NHESP) prior to the GCC issuing an Order of Conditions for the project. The GCC received the NHESP determination letter on 1/15/2019 which stated that the project would not adversely affect the actual Resource Area Habitat of state-protected rare wildlife species.

Maria continued to describe revisions to the Notice of Intent in which the disturbance calculations were amended to eliminate impacts from the installation of the swamp matting and to only reflect the impacts associated with the soil borings themselves; this is because the installation of swamp matting is an exempt activity under the Wetlands Protection Act.

Maria informed the GCC that the project intends to commence within the next week due to time restrictions associated with Priority Habitats of Rare Species on the project site. The vegetation maintenance and soil borings will occur first, and then the site will be restored to pre-disturbance conditions in April 2019.

Rachel Lindsay opened the hearing to public comment, and no public was present to comment on the project.

**Motion made by Erika LaForme to close the public hearing for DEP # 168-0330 for the exploratory soil borings along the E205E Transmission Line Right-of-Way**

**Motion seconded by Doug Cloutier**

**No further discussion – 3-0-0 – Motion Carries**

**Motion made by Erika LaForme to issue the Order of Conditions with Special Conditions for DEP # 168-0330 for the exploratory soil borings along the E205E Transmission Line Right-of-Way**

**Motion seconded by Doug Cloutier**

**No further discussion – 3-0-0 – Motion Carries**

**6:36 PM Cont. NOI: DEP # 168-0328 – Adams Road (ROW), guardrail replacement**

The Commission will continue review a Notice of Intent (NOI) permit application submitted by Ian Hodgdon c/o the Town of Greenfield Department of Public Works for the Right-of-Way (ROW) located between 128 and 144 Adams Road for the



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proposed installation of a concrete block retraining wall and reconstruction of existing guardrails. All disturbance associated with the proposed project will occur within the 25-foot No Disturb Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW).

The applicant requested a continuance of the public hearing until February 26<sup>th</sup>, 2019 so that site plans can be obtained from a registered, professional engineer.

**Motion made by Erika LaForme to continue the public hearing for DEP # 168-0328 for the Adams Road guardrail project until February 26, 2019**

**Motion seconded by Doug Cloutier**

**No further discussion – 3-0-0 – Motion Carries**

**6:37 PM Cont. Notice of Intent (NOI): 1417 Bernardston Road (Map R10-9) – solar array construction**

The Commission continued to review a Notice of Intent (NOI) permit application submitted by TRC Environmental Corporation c/o Kris Pitney of Pacifico Energy NA for the construction of a .75 megawatt direct current solar array on the property located at 1417 Bernardston Road (Assessor's Map R10-9) in Greenfield. There is 115,958 square feet of permanent disturbance proposed in the Buffer Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW) and 958 square feet of permanent disturbance proposed in the 25-foot No Disturb Zone to Bordering Vegetated Wetlands (BVW) on the project site.

The applicant requested a continuance of the public hearing for DEP # 168-0329 for the construction of a solar array at 1417 Bernardston Road until February 12, 2019.

**Motion made by Erika LaForme to continue the public hearing for DEP # 168-0329 for the construction of a solar array at 1417 Bernardston Road until February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019**

**Motion seconded by Rachel Lindsay**

**No further discussion – 3-0-0 – Motion Carries**

**6:41 PM Other Projects, Monitoring, Enforcements & Violations**

**4. Request to Amend Order of Conditions – DEP # 168-0321 – Green River Commons wetland mitigation at Highland Park:**

The GCC received a request to amend the Order of Conditions for DEP # 168-0321 for the Green River Commons wetland mitigation area at Highland Park from the applicant on January 16<sup>th</sup>, 2019. The requested amendment to the Order of Conditions is to remove the requirement to construct and monitor the offsite wetland mitigation area at Highland Park which was required as a result of the Riverfront Area redevelopment for the Green River Commons at 96-108 Deerfield Street and to transfer that responsibility to the City of Greenfield. There is a valid Enforcement Order issued to the applicant on September 11, 2018 for violations that resulted from initial efforts to construct the wetland mitigation area at Highland Park, so there is the additional requirement to restore the wetland resource areas in addition to the construction and monitoring of the mitigation area. To remove those conditions from the Order of Conditions for the project would result in there being no valid wetlands permit to do the restoration and mitigation area work at Highland Park, so the Enforcement Order issued for DEP # 168-0321 would have to be revoked and reissued to the City of Greenfield. Although the amendment would effectively eliminate the applicant's responsibility for the wetland restoration and mitigation area work at Highland Park, it does not remove the applicant's responsibility to monitor the survivability of the twelve (12) plantings at the Green River Commons on Deerfield Street for two (2) growing seasons and to replace any plantings that did not survive.



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**Motion made by Erika LaForme to continue amend the Order of Conditions for DEP # 168-0321 for the Green River Commons project per request of the applicant to remove the requirement to construct and monitor the offsite wetland mitigation area at Highland Park for two (2) growing seasons and to transfer the requirement to the City of Greenfield**

**Motion seconded by Doug Cloutier**

**No further discussion – 3-0-0 – Motion Carries**

**Motion made by Erika LaForme to revoke the Enforcement Order issued to DEP # 168-0321 for the Green River Commons wetland mitigation area violations and to reissue the Enforcement Order to the City of Greenfield to require the City to restore the wetlands and to construct and monitoring the offsite wetland mitigation area for two (2) growing seasons**

**Motion seconded by Doug Cloutier**

**No further discussion – 3-0-0 – Motion Carries**

**5. Review Forest Cutting Plan – 452 South Shelburne Road:**

The Agent updated the GCC on the status of this Forest Cutting Plan, informing them that the plan had been denied by DCR but was recently approved after amendments were made by the Plan Preparer. The Agent did not find any issues with the Forest Cutting Plan during her review.

**7:52 PM      Administrative Matters: Approval of Minutes from November 27<sup>th</sup>, 2018**

**Motion made by Erika LaForme to table the approval of the minutes from November 27, 2018 until February 12, 2019**

**Motion seconded by Doug Cloutier**

**No further discussion – 3-0-0 – Motion Carries**

**Set Next Meeting Date:** Tuesday, February 12<sup>th</sup>, 2019 at 6:00 PM in the Greenfield Department of Planning and Development, located at 114 Main Street in Greenfield.

**Meeting Adjourned at 7:57 PM**

**Motion made by Erika LaForme to adjourn at 7:57 PM**

**Motion seconded by Doug Cloutier**

**No further discussion – 3-0-0 – Motion Carries**

Respectfully Submitted,  
Sarah A. Fortune  
Conservation Agent

John Griffin,  
Chair